

The Lovington Leader.

A. J. Terry.

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J. Le Roy Lancaster

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Editor.

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That New County

While on our tour of the Valley last week we took occasion to sound a number of people more or less prominent as to their feeling and sentiment on the matter of a new county for the Plains. Expression was generally charitable and for the most part favorable. Once in a while we would hear something, or some fellow who thought he looked like something, who was so very wise as to be able to teach us, in a few minutes all the intricacies and details of how to avoid the awful pit-fall in which we hope we are about to plunge.

One wiseacre, with hoary temples, assumed the kindly attitude of a generous father advising his thoughtless son.

We are onto him however, and believe we know just why he occupies the attitude he now does. Don't know, but we believe the reason to be a bread and butter one.

Then again we met a two by four who could cite us at once as to where the whole thing was impossible. We believe we can, even not see the hand writing on the wall for this office, so pass him by.

The newspaper fraternity, at least a part of it so often abused as bought, sold, treated us with due deference. We believe it proper to state how ever, the press of the Valley will be divided on the question. We believe further, that we will get help from that source, and those who render such help will be those of greatest influence. Will Robinson of the News has been accused of so many things we didn't think he'd care a d— if we charged him with watching to see if the squirrel was inclined to jump, and jumping with him. To our surprise, he took it to heart, and became interested, "as a matter of justice to be looked into", and desires to know more of what we want. We shall see that he is informed, "for," said he, "if the matter appears to be one of justice, you will never find me against you."

The Record seem to realize that there will be such pressure brought to bear on the next legislature, not only from the Plains, but from other parts of the states, as will put a good honest paper in bad plight to oppose the will of the people in this efforts to get local self government. It says it has never assumed an arrogant attitude and never will.

Brother Wimberly of the Messenger thinks he knows enough, even now, to justify him in saying that when the proper time comes he will render all assistance in his power. Unfortunately we could not, for lack of time, discuss the matter with the Artesia press, but some how we feel that we have a warmer place in their hearts.

Will Merchant of Carlsbad, treasurer of Eddy County wanted to know when and where he had ever fought our cause. We understood him to say it made little difference to him whether the San Simon County was cut into the new county or left out. He wouldn't kick either way. He wanted the people to be pleased. But that's just like Will.

For our part, we passed it up to all comers that we were going to frame up such a proposition as would leave all good honest people without excuse for opposing us, and was going to camp on the trail of other fellows. But, every where, here in the Valley, every where, the rank and bill say, "give the Plains a county".

Gov. McDonald And The Drift Fence.

While on our rounds of the valley last week our old friend Will Merchant, County Treasurer of Eddy County, called our attention to the fact that the Leader had slightly misrepresented Governor McDonald, in the matter of his trip to Washington. Our remarks on that subject were based on news report of the daily press, which put the governor in the attitude of heading a delegation to Washington for the purpose of which was to ask for a law permitting drift fences and leases.

Mr. Merchant says this is a mistake. There had been an order, it seems, from Washington, commanding the removal of certain drift fences. Those fences were of long standing, and of public knowledge. But, having stood so long as a barrier to drifting cattle, and as boundaries of different ranges their sudden removal taking all parties unawares, would bring upon those using them a great inconvenience.

For this reason Mr. McDonald's visit was to ask for some arrangement which would avert the disaster of this sudden change.

Shall We Incorporate?

The matter of the incorporation of a town the size of Lovington would, perhaps, be taken as a joke by some, where the status and circumstances are different. But there are towns of the same size now incorporated in New Mexico.

Every town of any size, constitutes, certainly, a group of people, living in closely related society and close proximity, whose interest cannot help but be identical on many points and who find themselves compelled, by force of circumstance to act in unison for the accomplishment of many particular ends. Co-operation in this day, has been discovered to be the key to successful society.

The incorporating a town is nothing more or less than the legal organization of this group of people into a body politic, or corporate, transforming a body of natural persons into a legal person, thus, giving the legal person, the incorporating the power, as well as the right to act for itself, in all, (or most) matters of interest to the body thus created.

The statutes of our state permits such a corporation. The character of the corporation and the method of its procedure make it not a costly government, by any means.

In fact, it is said the cost of running a government for the town of Lovington, under guidance of our statutes, will be extremely small. The powers obtained by associating ourselves together in this way will afford advantages which far outweigh the cost. Under such government the town may be policed momentarily by the governing power, and other matters promptly attended to which is usually nobody's business. Then, too, there are powers and privileges pertaining to school matters which will greatly enhance our educational interests. We are told, for instance that we may become an independent school district by incorporating and that this will give greater powers to the school board and greater privileges to the people in managing their revenue for school purposes.

Prof. James has written District Attorney K. K. Scott, to know just what steps to take in order to incorporate.

Mr. Scott's letter (will appear in another issue.) Read it carefully, and debate, in your mind, "shall we incorporate?"

Our High School.

Interest in the Lovington High School is gradually and on so slowly, growing, crystallizing and focalizing.

What a High School is under the recent act of the legislature is becoming better understood, and the number of families who are preparing to take advantage of it another term is increasing from day to day. Plans are being laid for the raising of more revenue, and the installing of full equipments for a full school under a full corps of teachers.

Prof. Poore, who will assume his duties as county superintendent about April has, successfully in augmented manual training in the city school of Carlsbad, along several lines, including cooking. Prof. Poore visited Lovington last week, on a tour of the Plains, and incidentally looked over our town and High School building. He is by law, a member of our local school board, and is, by nature, deeply interested in educational matters. He stated to the Leader that he expected to take up the matter of our High School, the inauguration of manual training, and the raising of its grade in a special way, and would co-operate with our local board to the fullest extent in actively, and aggressively promoting our school.

It is a matter worthy of special note and interest to us that Prof. Poore has been appointed county superintendent to succeed Prof. Bailey, and that he has thus spoken of our school.

The Lovington High School is Lovington's pride, and Lovington's money and Lovington's brains shall be used to the limit in the up lift of our town educationally, and in the effort to maintain this as it now is, as the educational center of the Plains.

Chaves County pays into the State Treasury some \$3,000 a year as auto-car taxes, and will ask the next legislature to allow the expenditure of same on her own auto roads. A more just and practical idea could hardly be advanced.

The law to be asked for, we believe, would establish auto roads as such, that is, given them legal status, so that freight wagons may not be allowed to abuse them. And that's a good idea. It will come, sooner or later.

Ever and anon the Huachuca adherents and the Carranzistas some times alternately, some time simultaneously, send forth the sheering news "we've got 'em licked." Over in the states here, we had the idea some time ago that both sides were licked, and pretty nearly to a frazzle.

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LOOK!

I will be there with ZOLA REX, standard bred stallion, bred by Henry Exall, Dallas, Texas.

PEDIGREE

Zola Rex, 42349, by ZOLA, 36170, out of ANTHON.

ZOLA REX Races a mile in 2:20.

DATES

McDonald, Mar. 21.

Plainview, Mar. 28.

LOVINGTON, Apr. 4.
Midway Apr. 11.

PRICES and TERMS

ZOLA REX will make the season at my place three and one half miles east and one mile north of Plainview, N. M. \$5.00 per leap, money cash. For season, \$15.00, money due when sure mare is with foal. To insure colt, \$20.00, money due when colt socks. Mare stands good for season.

D. R. Allen,

Plainview, N. M.